

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PARAMA 00750 241345Z

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 COME-00 EB-07 /018 W

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R 241044Z AUG 76

FM AMEMBASSY PARAMARIBO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2816

INFO USCINCSO QUARRY HEIGHTS CZ

UNCLAS PARAMARIBO 0750

EO 11652: NA

TAGS: ETRD, BEXP, NS

SUBJ: SECRETARY'S OASGA INITIATIVES-USDOC EXPORT PROMOTION
ADVISORY SERVICES

REF : STATE 196223

1. EMBOFF MET WITH DIRECTOR OF MINISTRY OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS NARAIN AND ECONOMIC INFORMATION SERVICE CHIEF RAMSARAN AUGUST 20 TO BRING US OFFER OF EXPORT PROMOTION ADVISORY ASSISTANCE TO ATTENTION OF GOS. ALTHOUGH NARAIN EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR THE OFFER AND SAID HE WOULD LOOK INTO IT FURTHER, HIS INITIAL REACTION WAS THAT SURINAM PROBABLY WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE OFFER ANY TIME SOON.

2. ACCORDING TO NARAIN, THE GOS'S OWN TRADE PROMOTION POLICY IS NOT SUFFICIENTLY CLEAR TO DETERMINE WHAT TYPES OF ASSISTANCE COULD BE USEFUL AND ITS ACTIVITIES IN THIS AREA HAVE SO FAR NOT BEEN VERY ACTIVE. SHORTAGES OF QUALIFIED PERSONNEL HAVE MADE IT DIFFICULT TO CHANNEL MANY RESOURCES INTO EXPORT PROMOTION ACTIVITIES, AND NARAIN WAS NOT CERTAIN THAT GOVERNMENT OFFICERS ONCE TRAINED FOR SUCH WORK WOULD BE ALLOWED TO STAY IN THE FIELD BECAUSE OF GOVERNMENT PERSONNEL NEEDS ELSEWHERE. HE ALSO DID NOT THINK THERE WOULD BE SUFFICIENT INTEREST, FOR EXAMPLE, TO ORGANIZE A LOCAL SEMINAR.

3. IN VIEW OF NARAIN'S RESPONSE, EMBASSY BELIEVES IT UNLIKELY THAT GOS WILL WISH TO TAKE EARLY ADVANTAGE OF US OFFER. NONE-
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THELESS, IF WRITTEN MATERIALS COULD BE PROVIDED TO EMBASSY,

WE THINK IT WOULD BE USEFUL TO PASS THEM ON TO GOS FOR THEIR
USE IN THE PLANNING OF POSSIBLE FUTURE EXPORT PROMOTION
EFFORTS. RAMSARAN, FOR EXAMPLE, NOTED THERE WILL BE A NEED
FOR COMMERCIAL SPECIALISTS AS SURINAM'S FOREIGN SERVICE EXPANDS
AND THE AVAILABILITY OF SUCH MATERIALS COULD BE OF ASSISTANCE
IN THEIR TRAINING.
ZURHELLEN

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